

February 21, 2003

HAND DELIVER

Mary L. Cottrell, Secretary
Department of Telecommunications
and Energy
One South Station
Boston, Massachusetts 02110

Re: The Berkshire Gas Company, D.T.E. 02-17

Dear Secretary Cottrell:

The Company is hereby filing the Emergency Response Plan (the "Plan") of The Berkshire Gas Company ("Berkshire") that is provided pursuant to the directive of the Department. The Berkshire Gas Company, D.T.E. 02-17, p. 44 (2003). Also, enclosed please find Berkshire's Motion for Protective Order Relating to Confidential Treatment that requests protected treatment for the Plan given the important health and safety concerns associated with security and contingency planning, particularly during the continuing efforts with respect to terrorist activities. Accordingly, please note that the Plan is provided to the Hearing Officer only consistent with the terms of the motion.

Please call me if you have any questions with respect to this matter.

Very truly yours,

BROWN RUDNICK BERLACK ISRAELS LLP

By: _____
James M. Avery

JMA/pam
Enclosure

cc: Jody M. Stiefel, Esq., Hearing Officer (w/5 enc via hand delivery)
Andreas Thanos, Assistant Director, Gas Division
Alexander J. Cochis, Esq., Assistant Attorney General
Carol Wasserman, Esq., Division of Energy Resources
Karen L. Zink, Vice President